

Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC)
Adult Issues Committee
Minutes of Meeting
Friday, October 27, 2017 * 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM
DDDS Fox Run, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 2540 Wrangle Hill Road, Bear, DE

Members present: **Terri Hancharick**, Committee Chair, Parent Advocate; **Karen Gallagher**, Self-Advocate, Committee Vice-Chair; **Carol Barnett**, Division of Services for Aging Adults and Physical Disabilities (DSAAPD); **Laura Strmel**, St. John's Community Services (SJCS); **Bernadette DeAngelis**, Advocate; **Andrew Braune**, Danio Diary; **HarrietAnn Litwin**, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

Members absent: **Derrick George**, Advocate; **Gary Mears**, Parent Advocate; **Vivian Turner**, CERTS; **Alvin Emory**, Self-Advocate;

Guests Present: **Hattie Kirton**, Attendant Services

Staff present: **Kristin Harvey**, Social Services Administrator, Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC)

I. Call to Order: A quorum being present, Committee Chair Terri Hancharick called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM.

II. Approval of Minutes: HarrietAnn Litwin requested a revision to the August 18th minutes. She stated that she was listed as being both on the phone and present. Carol Barnett noted the same inconsistency with her name in the August 18th minutes. Terri Hancharick asked for a motion to accept the minutes as amended. The committee voted to accept the August 18th minutes as amended. The committee voted to accept the September 15th minutes as written.

III. Approval of Agenda: Kristin Harvey requested that Item VI C under New Business be deleted from this month's agenda. The reason for this is that Kristin was not able to get the suggested speakers for Item VI C to commit to attend the meeting. The committee voted to accept this deletion, and voted to approve the agenda as amended.

IV. -Chair's Report: Terri reported that Endless Possibilities in the Community (EPIC) would be holding an event at the Bear/Glasgow YMCA on Saturday, November 4, 2017 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM. EPIC staff will present on the topic of Lifespan Waivers. Terri invited all present to attend, and also to bring any informational materials that they would like to include on resource tables at the event. Terri also reported that the Christiana Care Health System Center for Special Health Care Needs will hold a presentation focusing on healthy eating and exercise. The event will take place on Wednesday, November 8th from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM at the Gateway Conference Center at Wilmington Hospital. Speakers will be Mary Williams and Erin Egan. Flu shots will also be offered at the event. The Center for Special Health Care Needs provides the following services: transition care practice, Down syndrome consult program, Hemophilia program, Cystic Fibrosis Program. Terri sent a copy of the flyer for the event to Kristin via email so that it can be distributed to the Council and Committee and their listservs.

V. - Staff Report: Kristin reported on the following:

- Registration is open for the 2018 LIFE Conference. Visit lifeconferencede.org for more information and to register. Early bird registration rates expire on January 1, 2018.
- Disability History Project- Taping of the personal stories is now complete. O.K. Video, the contractor for this portion of the project, is currently working to add captioning. The video series should be ready for distribution within the next few months. Another facet of the Disability History Project, which is currently in the planning stages, is the production of a play featuring actors with disabilities. George Tilson will be the playwright for the production. Wendy Strauss of the Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) will be in charge of

coordinating the play. Kristin said that as soon as she hears more information about the casting calls, she will share it with the committee.

- Budget hearings- Preliminary state budget hearings will begin during the first week of November. Kristin provided a copy of the budget meeting calendar for reference.
- Legislative Planning Committee- The next meeting of the Legislative Planning Committee will be November 7, 2017 from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM at DDDS Fox Run in Training Room A. Kristin informed the committee that this meeting will focus on voting and narrowing down the topics that were suggested at the first meeting. The goal is to create a final list of ten legislative priorities. Kristin stated that all are welcome to attend the meeting.
- 2018 Meeting Calendar- Kristin provided the committee with a copy of the 2018 meeting calendar, which has meeting dates listed for the full Council as well as its committees.
- 2018 Partners in Policymaking Program- The DDC is currently accepting applications for the 2018 Partners in Policymaking Program. Kristin provided copies of the application for the committee. She also directed them to find the application online at ddc.delaware.gov. Applications can be sent to the DDC office, and will be filed for consideration of the Partners Oversight Committee. The application deadline is Saturday, December 15, 2017.
- Administration on Community Living (ACL) Program Performance Report (PPR) Deadline: Normally the PPR is due by December 31st of each year. Due to a revised form having to pass through the federal clearinghouse process, and ACL not receiving final approval yet, this deadline has been extended to an as-yet-unnamed date in the future. Kristin stated that she will keep the committee informed.

VI.- Current Business:

- A. **Updates on the Healthy Sexuality Program:** Cory Nourie provided the following update via email:

- The project is in high gear.
- Cory and Dr. Renwick plan to have flyers promoting the program and the dates it will be offered no later than the end of November, 2017.
- Cory will present two "mini" sexuality sessions at the Transition Conference on December 5th. The purpose of this is to whet appetites for the workshops and also to see where individuals are in their knowledge.
- Cory and Dr. Renwick are in the process of ordering the curriculum for the program
- Sessions are booked for January-March of 2018.
- Session dates and locations are as follows (all sessions are from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM, and will consist of a self-advocate session and a parent session, not in the same room)- Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at Al DuPont/Nemours; Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at Al DuPont/Nemours; Wednesday, February 28, 2018 in Dover (most likely at Massey Station); Wednesday, March 21, 2018 on the Nemours campus in Seaford.
- Cory and Dr. Renwick have expressed an interest in having self-advocated and parent advocates involved in the sessions as co-presenters. Please send any ideas for co-presenters to Cory Nourie or Dr. Amy Renwick.

- B. **Review of Draft RFP 1708-** The committee reviewed the most recent Financial Report that was provided to the Council. They noted an inconsistency in the report, which led Kristin to call the DDC's Fiscal Officer. The problem was due to an incorrect formula. After this was resolved, Kristin noted that the committee has at their disposal to allot to projects which address their objectives the following funds broken down by Federal Fiscal Year (FFY):

- FFY 2017- \$14,175.06
- FFY 2018- \$47,625.55
- Total- \$61,801.00

The committee determined that they would prefer to wait to speak with representatives from the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services (DDDS), namely Jennifer Garcias, and also from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR), namely Sandi Miller before reviewing the RFP. Bernadette DeAngelis stated that she will follow up with Jennifer Garcias. HarrietAnn Litwin stated she will invite Sandi Miller. The committee agreed to table the review of RFP 1708 until after their November 17, 2017 meeting, provided that Jennifer and Sandi are able to attend the meeting.

VII. New Business:

- Laura Strmel asked for information and resources to help one of the individuals she works with who is interested in becoming a public speaker. Kristin stated that perhaps this individual and Council/Committee member Alvin Emory should talk. Alvin has also expressed an interest in becoming a paid public speaker. There is a program currently offered in Texas that Alvin is interested in bringing to Delaware. The program trains and promotes public speakers with disabilities.
- Bernadette DeAngelis shared her concerns with the current state of special education services in Delaware schools. Bernadette noted that special education teachers and para professionals are not listed on a school district's main contact list. Bernadette said this not only diminishes their importance to the school, but makes it difficult to locate the teacher or para that one wishes to speak with. Bernadette said this reinforces her observations that special education students in high school are physically segregated from their peers. Terri recommended that Bernadette reach out to the GACEC for more information and help. The GACEC is the state's Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) advisory panel; and specializes in addressing issues which impact school age youth with disabilities.
- Karen Gallagher asked for support for a letter-writing campaign. Karen would like to make medical service providers aware of the need to listen to their patients with disabilities and honor their wishes. The committee agreed that this is an important matter. Kristin suggested that Terri mention Karen's request to the Policy and Law Committee at their next meeting. The Policy and Law Committee may wish to request assistance from the DDC's Public Policy Manager to create a position statement regarding patient rights and medical service provider responsibilities. Terri said that she will mention this idea at the next Policy and Law Committee meeting.

There being no other new business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:03 PM.